Fremont NH – 2011 Tax Rate Release Information

We are in receipt of the 2011 tax rate. The Selectmen's Office, with input from the Tax Collector, School, and Superintendent's Office, has prepared this information for you in an effort to assist in your understanding of the 2011 rate. The new tax rate, set by the NH Department of Revenue Administration on October 21st is \$27.27 per thousand. This breaks down as follows:

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Town	3.17	3.28	3.70	3.44	3.58	3.36
Local School	14.87	14.87	15.74	16.62	19.42	20.54
State School	2.26	2.20	2.22	2.18	2.52	2.37
County	0.84	0.88	0.90	0.88	1.03	1.00
Total	\$20.27	\$21.23	\$22.56	\$23.12	\$26.55	\$27.27

Major changes took place in 2010 as we undertook the first recertification process following the 2005 revaluation. That tax year was a new cycle in terms of looking at prior years as a landmark. The recertification lowered overall property values due to the current market conditions. A key component to the annual setting of the tax rate is the total amount of town-wide assessed valuation. This is the total value of all taxable land and buildings in Fremont. The values have changed as follows:

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	\$415,332,105	\$421,914,226	\$427,227,039	\$429,321,292	\$358,837,557	\$363,266,248
Assessed						
Valuation						

The Town received a default budget in 2009 and only two warrant articles passed. In 2010, the proposed budget was approved, as it was \$108,648 less than the default budget. In 2011 the Town default budget was approved and Town overall expenses decreased given the various voter decisions. A warrant article passed for mosquito control \$49,550. The net municipal appropriations decreased \$66,660 from 2010. If you have specific questions about the Town's portion of the tax rate, they can be directed to the Selectmen's Office at the Town Hall at 895 2226 x 10 or x 11.

At the School District Meeting, if was forecasted that the local school portion of the tax rate would increase by about \$1.27. The gross increase in the school budget was \$25,689 according to the Financial Administrator at SAU 83. This was offset by a net return of unreserved fund balance of \$108,999. This helped to reduce the actual increase. There was an increase of \$451,305 over 2010-11 due to the decrease in the unreserved fund balance from FY10 to FY11. If you have specific questions about the school expenses, you should contact the Superintendent's Office, SAU #83 at 5 Hall Road, Unit 1, Fremont NH at 895 6903.

The State School tax portion decreased by \$41,090. The State School tax rate for 2011 is \$2.37. This rate is based on the equalization ratio and the "cost of an adequate education" as determined by the Department of Education based on weighted average daily membership in residence in each school district. Each school district's percentage of total is then calculated. Each percentage is then multiplied by the Town's share of the State education tax amount to allocate a portion of the state education taxes to each school district. Fremont saw an increase in revenue from the State of New Hampshire for education this year. The difference between the adequate education for each school district and each school district's share of the state education taxes becomes the adequate education grant for each school district.

As in all years, the local tax rates (Town and School) are a direct reflection of the votes taken by the voters of Fremont at the annual Town and School District meetings in March.

The portion of the Rockingham County budget attributable to Fremont decreased by \$4,997 to a total of \$364,739. Veteran Credits increased by \$7,000 to \$96,500. Elderly, disabled and blind exemptions increased by \$300,000 to \$1,613,333.

Current use values did not change significantly, due to the slight variation in the Town's equalized valuation. There was new value attributable to new homes, garages, sheds, and other property value improvements and one new water utility valuation. Additions to the tax base help to offset expenditures increases and more evenly balance the tax rate. The State again deleted Shared Revenues to offset town and county expenses, resulting in a revenue reduction as well.

The Tax Collector's Office at the Town Hall will be open the following dates for payment of taxes:

Thursday November 10 11:00 am to 2:00 pm SECOND ISSUE TAX BILLS ARE DUE

Thursday November 17 11:00 am to 2:00 pm Tuesday November 22 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

7) pm THURSDAY DECEMBER 1, 2011

Thursday December 1 11:00 am to 2:00 pm Wednesday November 30 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Thursday December 1 10:00 am to 3:00 pm and 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Friday December 2 8:00 am to 12 noon

If you have questions about your assessment, please feel free to stop by the Selectmen's Office and review the records. All property assessing records are public information. You can access the information online at the Vision Appraisal website at www.visionappraisal.com. We send updates in several times a year to the Vision site, and you can see the most recent date of updates when you log on. The Selectmen's Office is open Monday and Friday 8:30 am to 12 noon; Tuesday and Wednesday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm; and Thursday from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. We will also be glad to mail you out your property card if you call and make that request.

If you feel that your property is disproportionately assessed, or there are listing errors on your card, you will need to file an abatement. Our abatement information sheet is available at the Town Offices and on the town website at www.fremont.nh.gov. Abatement forms are available at the Selectmen's Office, or can be downloaded from the NHBTLA website at http://www.nh.gov/btla; and there is also a link on the Town's website. You need Form Taxpayers 76:16 Abatement Application to Municipality. You can also call or email the Selectmen's Office and we will send one out to you. Abatement forms are DUE no later than Thursday MARCH 1, 2012 by 5:00 pm. A postmark of March 1, 2012 will also be accepted.

You can drop off tax payments with a stamped self-addressed returned envelope, and the Collector will mail out your receipt. The Selectmen's Office and Tax Collector's Office are located at the Fremont Town Hall, 295 Main Street; on the main floor.

Fremont Selectmen's Office PO Box 120 Fremont NH 03044-0120 603 895 2226 x 10 or x 11 FremontTownHall@comcast.net FremontTA@comcast.net Fremont Tax Collector PO Box 120 Fremont NH 03044-0120 603 895 3200 x 14 FremontTax@comcast.net